



**Jared Blumenfeld**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection



## Department of Toxic Substances Control

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**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

November 6, 2019

Mr. Iván García, Programming Manager  
Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG)  
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NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 2020 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY (SCS) – DATED OCTOBER 22, 2019 (STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER: 2015092038)

Dear Mr. García:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a *Notice of Preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) (NOP)*.

The 2020 RTP-SCS is an update of a long-range planning document. The 2020 RTP is the culmination of a multiyear effort that aims to maintain or enhance the efficient and effective movement of goods, services, and persons. The SCS will seek to coordinate local land use and transportation systems within the region to reduce emissions from cars and light trucks. BCAG is required by federal law to develop an RTP that determines the needs for the transportation system and prioritizes proposed transportation projects. The RTP is also necessary to obtain and allocate federal funding for regional transportation projects.

DTSC recommends that the following issues be evaluated in the *Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)*, Hazards and Hazardous Materials section:

1. The Hazards & Hazardous Materials section of the SEIR should acknowledge the potential for historic project site activities to have resulted in the release of hazardous wastes/substances on sites that may be included in the 2020 RTP-SCS. In instances in which releases have occurred, further studies should be carried out to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination, and the

potential threat to public health and/or the environment should be evaluated. The SEIR should also identify the mechanism(s) to initiate any required investigation and/or remediation and the government agency who will be responsible for providing appropriate regulatory oversight.

2. If buildings or other structures are to be demolished on the project sites included in the 2020 RTP-SCS, surveys should be conducted for the presence of lead-based paints or products, mercury, asbestos containing materials, and polychlorinated biphenyl caulk. Removal, demolition and disposal of any of the above-mentioned chemicals should be conducted in compliance with California environmental regulations and policies. In addition, sampling should be conducted in accordance with DTSC's 2006 *Interim Guidance Evaluation of School Sites with Potential Contamination from Lead Based Paint, Termiticides, and Electrical Transformers* ([https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance\\_Lead\\_Contamination\\_050118.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Guidance_Lead_Contamination_050118.pdf)).
3. If any project sites require the importation of soil to backfill any excavated areas, proper sampling should be conducted to ensure that the imported soil is free of contamination. DTSC recommends the imported materials be characterized according to DTSC's 2001 *Information Advisory Clean Imported Fill Material* ([https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP\\_FS\\_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/SMP_FS_Cleanfill-Schools.pdf)).
4. If any sites included in the 2020 RTP-SCS have been used for agricultural, weed abatement or related activities, proper investigation for organochlorinated pesticides should be discussed in the SEIR. DTSC recommends the current and former agricultural lands be evaluated in accordance with DTSC's 2008 *Interim Guidance for Sampling Agricultural Properties (Third Revision)* (<https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/Ag-Guidance-Rev-3-August-7-2008-2.pdf>).

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DTSC appreciates the opportunity to review the NOP. Should you need any assistance with an environmental investigation, please submit a request for Lead Agency Oversight Application, which can be found at: [https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/VCP\\_App-1460.doc](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/09/VCP_App-1460.doc). Additional information regarding voluntary agreements with DTSC can be found at: <https://dtsc.ca.gov/brownfields/>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3710 or via email at [Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:Gavin.McCreary@dtsc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Gavin McCreary  
Project Manager  
Site Evaluation and Remediation Unit  
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program  
Department of Toxic Substances Control

cc: (via email)

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